

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Ex. Amndt.
3/11/06
SP
1. Cancelled.

2. (Currently Amended) A device for moistening an envelope flap comprising:

a reservoir for holding a moistening fluid;

an applicator including a first brush mounted above the reservoir for applying the moistening fluid to the envelope flap; and

a fluid transfer member, mounted for rotation about a horizontal axis such that a portion of the fluid transfer member is submerged in the moistening fluid, the fluid transfer member including a substantially cylindrical hub portion and a plurality of generally annular fins extending radially outward from the hub portion, the plurality of fins include a first plurality of fins having a first diameter and terminated in a knife edge and a second plurality of fins interspersed with the fins of the first plurality and having a second diameter that is less than the first diameter, the plurality of fins~~pairs of opposed substantially vertical surfaces, the surfaces of each pair being separated~~ by a distance that is sufficiently small to allow moistening fluid to be held between the fin surfaces by surface tension of the fluid to raise the moistening fluid above a surface of the fluid in the reservoir as the transfer member is rotated, the fluid transfer member transferring moistening fluid from the reservoir to the applicator while the transfer member rotates.

3. Cancelled.

4. Cancelled.

5. Cancelled.

6. Cancelled.

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7. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 2*, further comprising a second brush mounted in the reservoir and positioned to be combed by the fins of the transfer member as the transfer member rotates.

8. Cancelled.